



Central Region Area 3 Venturing Newsletter

December 2013

Prepared By:
The Area 3

The Countdown Begins

Just **5 weeks left** until the Area 3 Venturing Conference! With all the new changes coming to Venturing in the next year, this conference will be bigger and better than ever. The conference will be held at the Calvary United Methodist Church in Normal, IL on January 10-11th. The main part of the conference is held on Saturday with a few training sessions (ILSC/VLST) being offered Friday evening. With limited space and spots filling up quickly, you'll want to be sure to get your registration form in soon! A link can be found at the bottom of the page.

The cost for the 2014 conference will be **\$18 until January 1, 2014** and **\$20 from January 2nd up until the conference date**. This will cover all materials and conference costs. Lunch will be provided. If you or your unit is participating on Friday night, the check-in on January 10th will begin at 5:30 p.m. and the Saturday check-in will be at 7:45 a.m. on January 11th.

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The conference is designed to provide your crew, district, and council with the building blocks for the success of your Venturing program. It will help you get Venturing "Out of the Box and Over the Top". Whether you are just starting to grow your crew or Venturing Officers' Association or you are already on the path to success and you just want to learn more information about how others have succeeded, then this conference is for you. This conference is for professional Scouters, Venturing adult leaders, and Venturers from councils in Area 3 and across the nation who are ready to take their program to the next level.

Area 3's Venturing President, Lizzie Schneider, and her Area 3 Officers will be serving as the conference's staff. Past Area 3 Venturing officers that have gone on to serve at Regional and National levels in Venturing will also be on the staff. The Area 3 Venturing Committee is on the staff to support the youth officers in their presentations as well. This year there will be 4 treks running during the conference and information about each one can be found on the following page.

Registration form: [CLICK HERE](#)

Brochure: [CLICK HERE](#)



Area 3 Venturing Conference Class Options

Training sessions and programs for Saturday include:

The New Venturing/Professionals:

1A: The New Venturing (Unit Level Changes)

See how the revitalized Venturing program will affect your unit through this course.

2A: The New Venturing Part 2 (Council-National Changes)

Find information on changes at council through national levels of Venturing in the coming year.

3A: Advancement Changes and Keepers

Learn all the latest on what's staying & what's going in advancement.

4A: Training Changes and Keepers

Training has some changes & keepers too.

5A: Professionals Only Course

Looking for ways to hit your membership or retention goals? Are you a Scout Executive looking for a training program on Venturing to send your professionals to? Then this is the course for you!

High Adventure Skills:

1B: I'm Going to Philmont! Now What?

You've signed up for Philmont. Find out what's next!

2B: Ultra-Light Backpacking

Learn how to reduce weight in your pack & have a more enjoyable backpacking experience.

3B: Leave No Trace

The principles of LNT will be detailed in this session.

4B: Outdoor Cooking

Explore outdoor cooking methods & practices during this course.

5B: Putting the Wow into Your Program

How do you pull your crew from this rut and what exciting events could you plan?

6B: Team Building Games

Come learn some new teambuilding games in this hour long session.

Adventures Beyond Your Unit/Sea Scouting:

1C: Why Venturing Should Be Part of Your Scouting Family

See where Venturing fits into the Scouting picture.

3C: Venturing Officers' Association

The next step after serving as a crew officer is to become part of a district or council Venturing Officers' Association (VOA).

4C: Marketing & Recruiting for Venturing & Sea Scouting

Come here to learn how to use social media as a promotional tool both in bringing people to events and recruiting new members.

5C: If Gilligan had been a Sea Scout Just sit right back and you'll hear a tale... A tale of a Sea Scout Ship.....learn about Sea Scouts, what you can learn from the program and what Gilligan could have known if he had been a Sea Scout.

6C: Boatswain's Academy on Gilligan's Island

Gilligan could have learned a lot at this Boatswain's Academy covering Sea Scout organization, leadership and training opportunities in Sea Scouts. Join us to learn about being a leader or volunteer in Sea Scouts.

All Day Course:

Kodiak

Spend the day learning how to lead a group of youth through the Kodiak Challenge. There will be an additional cost of \$15 for this course.

Upcoming Calendar of Events for Area 3

December 19th—Officer Selection Webinar

December 28th—STEM University (St. Louis, MO)

January 10th-11th—Area 3 Venturing Conference (Normal, IL)

January 14th—Webinar for Professionals

January 25th—University of Scouting (St. Louis, MO)



STEM University

Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math—Oh my! STEM University is coming again to the Greater St. Louis Area Council. It will take place on Saturday, December 28 on the campus of the University of Missouri, St. Louis. Venturers will work to earn the Mathematics Nova Award: Numbers don't lie.



The event will run from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. with a cost of \$15/youth. Registration is open until December 14th and the registration link can be found at

<http://www.stlbsa.org/programs/stem/Pages/STEMUniversity.aspx>.

If you are interested in exploring STEM fields through hands on activities, games, and FUN, this is the event for you!

WD Boyce Council Venturee

Will you be able to find it? This event is a GPS road rally to the Venturee. It will be a daytime event, though camping will be permitted.

Each district will be given their own set of coordinates (depending on their direction away from the undisclosed location) and will have to find their way there using coordinates found at different locations!

Upon finding the location, Venturers will participate in activities from barrel rolling, bags, slack lining, bocce ball, squeeze box, and more.

The event will be happening on Saturday, April 12, 2014. For more information, please contact Cynthia Davis, the event coordinator at cynthia@cnrdish.net

Got An Event?

Does your Council have an event they'd like to promote? Area 3 can help! Email Maddy Kangas at mkangas2@illinois.edu with information about your event or upload submissions to the Central Region calendar at http://www.crventuring.org/event_submission.php

Venturers love attending events to meet new friends and enjoy activities that are out of the box and over the top.

Use your imagination for creative events this year to recruit new members and retain your existing members.

PAST:

Venturers at the Area 3 Program Conference



On the weekend of November 9, 2013, Venturing and Sea Scouting representatives from the Central Region and Area 3 found



themselves at the Area 3 Program

Conference held in Normal, IL. To

begin the day, the youth led a flag ceremony.

The rest of the day was spent leading ses-

sions on The New Venturing, Sea Scouting,

Putting the WOW into Your Program, and Why Venturing Should Be a Part of Your Scouting Family. During lunch, Area 3 Venturing

President Lizzie Schneider was given the opportunity to speak to Scouters about how Scouting has impacted her

life. Her story exemplifies the feelings of many Scouts and inspires Scouters and volunteers to continue on in their roles as mentors to youth across the nation.



Save the date! Area 3 will be offering an Introduction to Leadership Skills for Crews (ILSC) course and a Crew Officer's Orientation on March 8, 2014. ILSC is a basic leadership course designed to give youth the skills they need to become successful leaders in their crews. It covers topics ranging from crew

organization and planning to effective communication and servant leadership. Fun activities and games keep participants engaged and interested in learning the various methods for becoming a better leader. This event will be held at a location that is central to those interested in attending. More details will be available in the future newsletters.

Crew Officer Orientation & ILSC

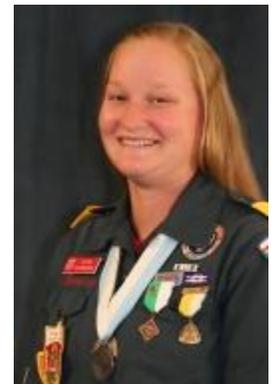
FUTURE:

Area 3 Venturing President's Corner

Hey Venturers! Like anybody preparing for the holiday season, we've been busy throughout Area 3. Whether you are stringing colorful lights around the house or cleaning up the remnants of turkey decorations on a stomach still full of Thanksgiving leftovers, you're probably managing to stay busy with friends and family. I just hope you also have something planned with your crew or district to get together and enjoy the season with everyone. Many crews have their traditions, some simple and some more complex. Some crews will throw old pumpkins off the back deck of an advisor's house, while others plan a Christmas party in conjunction with the Boy Scout Troop or religious affiliation. Some will go ice skating or skiing, and others will jam out while making snowflakes and playing games at a meeting. No matter what you do, don't forget what Venturing is about: fun, leadership, and SERVICE.

It's easy for us to plan something to celebrate together, but how often do we think about others in this time? Take your crew to a local nursing home to carol and talk to the residents. Volunteer at a local soup kitchen to ensure everyone is fed. Pull together a clothing drive to prepare everyone for the chill of the season. Share a hot chocolate with a neighbor. Invite friends, as well as a pack and troop to your winter festivities. Whatever it is, keep in mind the principles of scouting, and by bringing joy to others, you will find joy in yourself.

Lastly, don't forget to continually show your gratitude. To start, I am thankful for the opportunities present for me in Venturing, and that it allows me to make connections with my community and give service to others. I am thankful for my officers and advisors that work with me to achieve goals that benefit YOU, Area 3 Venturers. I am thankful for everyone that is part of the program and makes it as fun as it is. Lastly, I am thankful for friends and family that I can celebrate the holidays with. Think about what you are most thankful for now and always. Feel free to share these with me when you see me at the Venturing Conference in January!



Wishing you a joyous end to 2013 and a great beginning to 2014,
Lizzie Schneider
Area 3 Venturing President



*Lizzie's goals for this year can be found at: <http://crventuring.org/document2.php?s=1&id=697>

Task Force Area 3 Sea Scout Boatswain's Corner

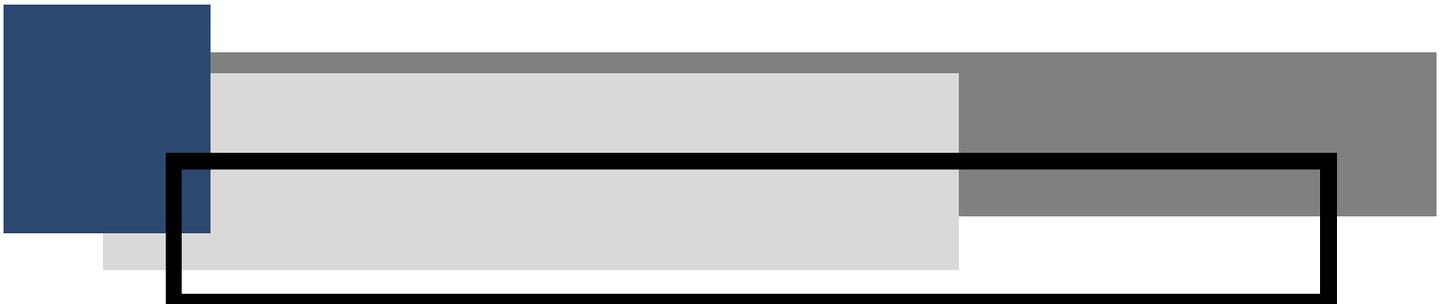
Hey it's John Schmidt here, the new Task Force Area Three Boatswain.

If you don't know me, I'm 16 years old and I love to be on the water. I live in Springfield, IL, and I am a junior at Glenwood High School. I am a Life Scout in Boy Scout troop 97 and a member of Sea Scout Ship 123, lead by Poppy the Sailor Man himself, as a part of Abraham Lincoln Council.

I look forward to seeing many new faces and meeting many new people, especially in May at the Rendezvous and at the fun filled Sea Scouts Aquatic week at Swift Adventure Base. For more information on either amazing event, or any other great opportunities Sea Scouting has to offer, please contact me at smitykid5@yahoo.com.

My goal for the term is to make sure everyone experiences how fun Sea Scouting is!

Thank you,
John Schmidt
Task Force Area 3 Boatswain



Venturing Webinars

Bringing Scouting Resources into
Your Own Home

CR Area 3
Venturing



To Join a webinar follow one of the
sets of instructions below.

Voice Only (by phone): Dial (559) 546-1200,
when asked for a meeting ID enter 176-442-028#.
Once you have entered the webinar please mute
your phone by dialing *6. If you want to un-mute
your phone dial *6 as well.

Voice/PPT (by internet):

Go to

[http://www.FreeScreenSharing.com/
meetings/176-442-028](http://www.FreeScreenSharing.com/meetings/176-442-028)

Time: 7:00-7:45pm CDT



2013-2014 Webinar Series Schedule:

December 19th: Venturing Officer Selection Process

January 14th: Special Session for Professional Scouters Only

February 18th: The New Venturing Part 1– Unit Level Changes

March 18th: The New Venturing Part 2– Council through National Changes

April 17th: Venturing Trainings/Purpose of Venturing Officers' Associations

May 27th: Open Microphone Month (Send us your Questions)

*Did you miss the latest webinar, "Market and Recruiting for Sea Scouting and Venturing"?
No worries! It will soon be posted on YouTube. Check the following link for videos by Area 3:
<http://www.youtube.com/user/CRVenturingArea3/videos>

Area 3 Venturing Committee

Area 3 Venturing President

Lizzie Schneider, Greater St. Louis Area Council
Email: diabeticliz11@gmail.com
Scouting Bio: http://crventuring.org/officer_popup.php?ID=7

Task Force Area 3 Sea Scout Boatswain

John Schmidt, Abraham Lincoln Council
Email: smitykid5@yahoo.com

Area 3 Venturing V.P. of Administration

Alex Johar, Greater St. Louis Area Council
Email: johar@cbchs.org
Scouting Bio: http://crventuring.org/officer_popup.php?ID=56

Area 3 Venturing V.P. of Program

Rachel Bisch, Greater St. Louis Area Council
Email: rachel.bisch@gmail.com
Scouting Bio: http://crventuring.org/officer_popup.php?ID=55

Area 3 Venturing V.P. of Communication

Maddy Kangas, Prairielands Council
Email: maddy.k.716@gmail.com
Scouting Bio: http://crventuring.org/officer_popup.php?ID=127

Area 3 Venturing Advisor/Chair

Bob Vogt, Greater St. Louis Area Council
Email: revogt1@gmail.com
Scouting Bio: http://crventuring.org/officer_popup.php?ID=8

Task Force Area 3 Sea Scout Commodore

Bill Hamilton, Greater St. Louis Area Council
Email: WHami9@aol.com
Scouting Bio: http://crventuring.org/officer_popup.php?ID=50

Task Force Area 3 Sea Scout Trainer

David Whitney, Greater St. Louis Area Council
Email: David.Whitney@emerson.com

TF Area 3 Sea Scout Vice Commodore

Lev Reynolds, Lewis & Clark Council
Email: Leveringr@aol.com

TF Area 3 Sea Scout Vice Commodore

Bob Schmidt, Abraham Lincoln Council
Email: blsmitty1@yahoo.com

Area 3 Associate Advisor - Administration

Julie Ramsey, Prairielands Council
Email:
Scouting Bio: http://crventuring.org/officer_popup.php?ID=147

Area 3 Associate Advisor - Program

Amanda Vogt, Greater St. Louis Area Council
Email: venturingpresident@yahoo.com
Scouting Bio: http://crventuring.org/officer_popup.php?ID=148

Area 3 Associate Advisor - Communication

Eric Mircsov, Greater St. Louis Area Council
Email: eaglescout939@yahoo.com
Scouting Bio: http://crventuring.org/officer_popup.php?ID=149

Area 3 Northern Cluster Venturing Coordinator

Ina Pearsall, Illowa Council
Email:
Scouting Bio: http://crventuring.org/officer_popup.php?ID=52

Area 3 Central Cluster Venturing Coordinator

John Gunyon, W.D. Boyce Council
Email: jgunyon@charter.net
Scouting Bio: http://crventuring.org/officer_popup.php?ID=54

Area 3 Southern Cluster Venturing Coordinator

Dennis Gunderson, Lewis & Clark Council
Email: dennis28hh@juno.com
Scouting Bio: http://crventuring.org/officer_popup.php?ID=53



Venturing Recruitment Tool-Kit

The National Venturing Cabinet has put together a customizable recruitment kit for units and councils to use when recruiting new youth members. Check out the fliers and recruitment materials on the national website.

Peer to Peer Link: <http://www.scouting.org/scoutsource/Marketing/Recruiting2/VenturingToolBox.aspx>



MATH HOMEWORK

Top excuses for not doing homework:

*I accidentally divided by zero and my paper burst into flames.

*I dug all around the yard but couldn't find the square roots I needed.

*I completed my homework, but then I beheld it and saw that it lacked character, personality - there was no "me" in it, so I multiplied it by i , and it became imaginary!

*I was watching the World Series and got tied up trying to prove that it converged.

*I have a solar powered calculator and it was cloudy.

*I couldn't figure out whether i is the square root of negative one or i is the square root of negative one.

Seen the upcoming calendar of events and have STEM on your mind?

Are you so distracted by your interest in attending this spectacularly fun and mathematical event that you forgot to do your math assignment that's due in class today?

Try one of these excuses out on your math teacher!



Area 3 Venturing Facebook Groups

Did you know that your council has a Venturing Facebook Group? Many of our councils have developed their own Facebook Groups. Those that did not have one had one established by the Central Region Venturing Communication Committee. They will be serving as the group administrator until a local youth or adult steps forwards to administer the group. The following are the links to each of our council's Venturing Facebook Groups:

Area 3 Venturing Facebook Group:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=17279505847>

Abraham Lincoln Venturing Facebook Group:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=44059028761>

Greater St. Louis Area Venturing Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=48964223809>

Hawkeye Area Venturing Facebook Group:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2246395863>

Illowa Venturing Facebook Group:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=51644697397>

Lewis & Clark Venturing Facebook Group:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=129355675712>

Lincoln Trails Venturing Facebook Group:

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/55168864010/>

Mississippi Valley Venturing Facebook Group:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=119055695511>

Northeast Iowa Venturing Facebook Group:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=60552383208>

Prairielands Venturing Facebook Group:

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/55303044593/>

W. D. Boyce Venturing Facebook Group:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=8316386849>

Winnebago Venturing Facebook Group:

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/61890416839/>

